

November 30th - December 2nd, 2006

**OPERATION
SNOW
EMERGENCY**

Situation: The National Weather Service is predicting the season's first significant snowfall.

From the National Wx Service:

“INCREASING POTENTIAL OF WINTER STORM AFFECTING PORTIONS OF SOUTHEAST WISCONSIN LATE TONIGHT AND FRIDAY MORNING... THERE IS AN INCREASING POTENTIAL FOR HEAVY SNOW AND BLOWING SNOW ACROSS PORTIONS OF SOUTHEAST WISCONSIN LATE TONIGHT AND FRIDAY MORNING. SNOWFALL COULD EXCEED 6 INCHES IN SOME AREAS.”

MCSO Preparation:

1. We've significantly increased the number of squad cars working the freeway. Normally we may have ten squads working but because of the inclement weather, we've increased that number to 40. We are suspending all non-essential operations. Again, 40 squads will be deployed across the freeway system and more squads are available if needed.

PRIORITIES

2. This is a serious public safety issue and our objective is to keep traffic moving safely.

Our priorities are as follows:

- ✓ Respond to personal injury accidents. If there are injuries, we are going to get people the medical help as soon as possible.
- ✓ Our second priority will be to get all disabled cars off the freeway. Often these cars impede the traffic flow, create more hazards – increasing the risk for more crashes.

We are working with tow truck companies and extra tow trucks are standing by so we can clear these crash scenes quickly.

- ✓ After we've responded to those two types of calls I just described, we'll respond to the minor fender-benders and other calls.

PUBLIC'S HELP

We need the public's help. Deputies need to focus on the serious crashes. If you are involved in a crash *without* injuries and if you can move your car, we want you to exchange information with all the parties involved and then within 24 hours, go to one of our substations to report the crash. We **DON'T** want people sitting on the freeway...waiting a long period of time for deputies to respond.

MINOR CRASHES

Suggested Response for Minor Crashes:

- Exchange information with all parties involved in crash.
- Make sure you get the following:
 1. License plate number
 2. Make and color of vehicle involved in crash.
 3. Driver's name, address, telephone number and date of birth.

Once you gather the information, you can walk into one of our substations and report the crash.

WALK-IN LOCATIONS

To make this convenient for people, we've set up locations across the county.

Three locations will be staffed 24 hours per day, seven days a week:

- Patrol Substation
10190 W. Watertown Plank Road.
- Milwaukee County Criminal Justice Facility
Lobby - 949 N. 9th Street, Milwaukee
- Airport Substation
5300 S. Howell Avenue, Milwaukee

**The following areas will be staffed on Friday,
December 1st from 10am to 8 pm:**

- Jewel Osco
2355 N. 35th Street, Milwaukee
- Martin Luther King Center
1531 W. Vliet Street, Milwaukee
- Kosciuszko Park
2201 S. 7th Street, Milwaukee
- MCSO Training Academy
9225 S. 68th Street, Franklin
- MCSO Traffic Desk
Safety Building – Room 102
821 W. State Street, Milwaukee

We also want to encourage people to use crash investigation sites. The following information is courtesy of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation.

Crash investigation sites are designated safe zones for distressed motorists to relocate to if they are involved in an incident on the freeway. The sites are intended for use by motorists to exchange insurance information or make emergency repairs to vehicles following a minor collision or breakdown, provided that the vehicle is able to be driven. They are also used as relocation sites by freeway service patrols.

The shoulder of the freeway is not a safe place for motorists to stop. These sites enhance safety by moving pedestrians and stalled vehicles away from high-speed, "live" traffic lanes. They also remove distractions and potential obstacles for other motorists, thereby minimizing secondary incidents.

Most crash investigation sites are located near freeway exits, but are not visible from the freeway. Future plans include sites along freeway off-ramps for easier accessibility.

Blue information signs located along freeway ramps and arterial streets guide motorists to the sites. Common locations are shopping centers, municipal sites, and park and ride lots. The sites are well lit and often include access to a pay phone.

Currently, crash investigation sites are located in the greater Milwaukee area:

I-94 corridor

State Patrol truck weigh station near County G

Racine County Sheriff's substation at WIS 20

Wisconsin Tourism Information Center on WIS 165

US 45 Corridor

Good Hope Road park and ride lot

Stolper Drive located in the northwest quadrant of the US

45 Interchange at Pilgrim Road

Lannon Road (County Y)

US 45 southbound exit ramp to Hampton Avenue

US 45 southbound exit ramp to Appleton Avenue

I-894 southbound exit ramp to Lincoln Avenue

76th Street/State Fair park and ride lot

Watertown Plank Road park and ride lot overflow lot in the northwest quadrant of the interchange

I-894 northbound exit ramp to Greenfield Avenue

US 45 northbound exit ramp at Appleton Avenue

US 45 northbound exit ramp at Hampton Avenue

Finally, our emergency snow plan is a joint operation between the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office and the Department of Public Works.

We can't effectively help people if we're slipping and sliding down the freeway. So we depend on DPW to keep the roads salted and safe for travel. This emergency snow plan is a joint operation between the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office and the Department of Public Works. Together, we believe we can make Milwaukee County safer place to drive.

###